Percentage of Literacy Population in the Country

1002. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage of new literates added to the country's literacy population during the last three years;

(b) whether the percentage is commensurate with the goal of achieving near hundred per cent literacy by the end of the century; and

(c) what further steps are being taken by Government to improve the rate of female literacy in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) and (b) The literacy data is collected through the decennial census operations. The position regarding the present rate of literacy will be known after the next census which is due to be held in 1991.

(c) The National Literacy Mission recently approved by the Government envisages imparting of functional literacy by 1995 to 80 million illiterate persons in 15-35 age group. The focus of National Literacy Mission would be on rural areas and particularly women. Specifically determined efforts will be made for universalisation of outreach specially among women.

The following measures have already been taken to encourage literacy among women particularly in rural and tribal areas:

(i) The State Governments/Union Territories have been specially requested to ensure that atleast 50 per cent of the learners in the adult education centres are women.

(ii) Priority is given to the opening of adult education centres predominantly in rural and adivasi areas having literacy rate below the national average in general and female adult literacy in particular.

(iii) The State Governments and Union Territories have been requested to locate adult education centres in the basis of scheduled castes/tribes as far as possible.

(iv) To encourage voluntary organisations to run literacy centres exclusively for women, grant-in-aid rules have been releaxed to permit voluntary agencies working in the field of adult education to take up minmum number of five centres for women learners instead of the normal practices of running 15 centres.

(v) Lay special emphasis on post-literacy and follow-up programme to ensure that neo-literates do not relapse into literacy.

हिन्दी भाषा का प्रसार

1003. **श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव** : क्या मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :-

(क) क्या यह सच है कि "क" और "ख" क्षेत्रों में राजभाषा अधिनियम की पूर्णत: अवहेलना करते हुए अंग्रेजी/रोमन लिपि के कम्प्यटरों टेलेक्स मशीनों और टेली-प्रिंटरों जैसे दर्जनों आधुनिक यंत्रों के आगमन और अबाधित प्रयोग के फलस्वरूप हिन्दी के प्रसार का कार्य वर्षों पीछे पड़ गया है और जहां भी टेलेक्स मशीनें लगायी गई हैं वहां से एक भी तार हिन्दी में नहीं भेजा गया है ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि "क" क्षेत्रों में अंग्रेजी के टंकन यंत्रों आदि की तुलना में देवनागरी के टंकन यंत्रों, टंककों